

# VETERANS PROGRAM TRUST FUND



## Annual Report

### 1 July 2013— 30 June 2014

Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs  
Office of the Commissioner  
1111B Louisville Road  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601  
Phone: (502) 564-9203



*"Serving those who have served the Commonwealth and our great Nation."*

# **Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund FY 2014 Annual Report**

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KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Steven L. Beshear  
Governor

Office of the Commissioner  
1111B Louisville Road  
Frankfort, KY 40601-6118  
PHONE: 502-564-9203 FAX: 502-564-9240

Heather French Henry  
Commissioner

September 1, 2014

Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund  
FY 2014 Annual Report

The Veterans Program Trust Fund was established as part of the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Bonus Act on December 23, 1988 under Kentucky Revised Statute Chapter 40.460. This report provides a list of the present members of the Board of Directors.

During this reporting period, the Trust Fund expended/obligated funds for 17 worthy projects that will benefit Kentucky's veteran population. This report outlines the details concerning each of the Trust Fund expenditures for FY 2014.

Funding sources include dollars generated by taxpayers who are entitled to an income tax refund who may contribute all or a portion of that refund to the Trust Fund through the tax check-off on their state income tax form. The Trust Fund also receives a \$5.00 fee that is included in the price of an initial or renewal Veterans License Plate. The Trust Fund gladly accepts tax-deductible contributions from individuals, groups or corporations. This report outlines the amounts received from each of these sources.

The Trust Fund began the year with a balance of **\$478,262.94**

Expenditures during the year totaled **\$568,100.97**. The fiscal year ended with a fund balance, less obligations, of **\$478,262.94** as shown in the financial report on page 6. Details concerning the projects are included in the use of funds section beginning on page 5.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Heather French Henry".

Heather French Henry, Commissioner, KDVA  
Chair, Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund

*"Serving those who have served the Commonwealth and our great Nation."*

# Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund

## *History and Operation*

The Kentucky General Assembly established the Veterans Program Trust Fund (VPTF) as part of the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Bonus Act on December 23, 1988. The purpose of the VPTF is to direct funding to projects and programs that help Kentucky's veterans but that are not funded by the state General Fund.

The VPTF is overseen by a board of directors whose members are appointed by the Governor. The list of members with their affiliations is on page 5. The VPTF Board of Directors meets several times a year on an *ad-hoc* basis as it receives requests for funding.

The VPTF has received a steady, moderate income from a \$5.00 fee that is included in the initial purchase price and renewal of veterans license plates.

The VPTF is also a legal recipient of tax-deductible contributions from individuals, companies and organizations. Such contributions may be made through the VPTF check-off box on the state income tax form, or directly to the VPTF through personal checks to the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs. The Help a Veteran Every day (H.A.V. E.) Program encourages citizens to contribute directly to the Veterans Program Trust Fund at any county clerk office. In Fiscal Year 2010, KDVA started hosting an on-line donation page for the VPTF, allowing individuals to make secure donations by credit card or bank withdrawal.

Kentucky's veterans service organizations have contributed generously to the VPTF since its creation and continue to do so.

Donors may also specify that their contribution go to one of several specific programs/facilities KDVA operates for the benefit of veterans:

- Homeless Veterans Trust Fund
- Women Veterans Programs
- Benefits/Field Operations
- Thomson-Hood Veterans Center (Wilmore)
- Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center (Hazard)
- Western Kentucky Veterans Center (Hanson)
- Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West (Hopkinsville)
- Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central (Fort Knox)
- Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North (Williamstown)
- Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East (Greenup)

# **Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund**

## **Highlights for FY 2014 (7/1/13 - 6/30/14)**

As of July 1, 2014, the beginning of the fiscal year, the Trust Fund had **\$478,262.94**. Since that date the Trust Fund board members approved the following expenditures:

- 1. Provide financial assistance to combat veterans working through the Behavioral Health Program of the University of Louisville and the Kentucky National Guard. - \$75,000**
- 2. Establish Vet Connect, a rural veterans transportation program with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. - \$120,000**
- 3. Support the Homeless Veterans Program - \$110,000**
- 4. Support program by National Association of Black Veterans to restore veterans' headstones in neglected cemeteries - \$20,000**
- 5. Help KDVA host the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration Event - \$5,500**
- 6. Support the Burial Honors Program - \$35,000**

**Find more items beginning on Page 11.**

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**Veterans Program Trust Fund - State Funds 6307 and 6308**  
**Summary Fund Activity Report - Fiscal Year 2014 (July 2013 - June 2014)**

<b>Fund Balance, Beginning of FY14</b>	<b>FY 2014</b>
<b>Carryforward</b>	<b>\$478,262.94</b>
<b>Receipts:</b>	
License Plate Fees (R404)	405,620.10
Tax Check-off (R809)	43,144.00
HAVE Donations - checks sent to F'fort (R802)	33.12
Miscellaneous Donations (R801 & R802)	16,770.20
Interest Income (R771)	343.20
<b>Total Receipts:</b>	<b>465,910.62</b>
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	<b>\$944,173.56</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>	
McKesson Medical Surgical - Vital Sign Monitors	21,711.90
Bill Coleman (WES)	1,670.00
Eventualities (Booth rental) (WVP)	175.00
University of Louisville - Behavior Health Partnership Program	75,000.00
Morehead State Univ Foundation - Veterans Expo	10,000.00
Disabled American Veterans - Vans	50,000.00
KY Transportation Cabinet- The Vet Connection	122,000.00
American Legion Post 23 - Van	20,000.00
AMVETS National Service Foundation	15,000.00
Auditor of Public Accounts - FY13 Audit	8,010.00
Homeless Veterans Trust Fund	110,000.00
Honor Flight Bluegrass, Inc.	10,000.00
Military Officers Association of America	5,500.00
National Association of Black Veterans, Inc. - Cemetery Restorations	20,000.00
Charles Heater (medal for terminally ill veteran)	11.50
Burial Honors Program	35,000.00
Home Depot - FOPS outreach items	493.24
Alan Hyman Ent - KDVA Printing tablecloths & outreach items	4,235.00
USACares - Support veterans in need	25,000.00
Lowe's - FOPS outreach items	626.62
4IMPRINT - FOPS Outreach items	3,503.73
CHFS - Division of Behavioral Health - Operations Headed Home and Immersion	28,000.00
Owen Funeral Home & Hicks-Vaughn FH - Indigent Burials	2,000.00
Awards Center - FOPS Outreach Items	163.98
<b>TOTAL EXPENDED</b>	<b>\$568,100.97</b>
<b>Fund Balance (Cash on Hand)</b>	<b>\$376,072.59</b>
Bobbie Frazier (Catering for WVP)	448.00
Becky Brown (Catering for WVP)	75.00
Ron Spriggs Exhibit of Tuskegee Airmen	8,500.00
Carter Equipment Company - WKVC Kawasaki Mule	10,579.12
Interlink Counseling Services, Inc.	30,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDED</b>	<b>\$ 488,611.14</b>
<b>Fund Balance (Cash on Hand)</b>	<b>\$ 478,262.94</b>

State Veterans Cemeteries Fund

State Veterans Cemeter-  
ies Fund

Fund Balance, Beginning of FY14	FY 2014 YTD
<b>Carryforward</b>	<b>\$ 75,569.46</b>
Additional Donations	29,856.84
Other Adjustments	-
Interest	54.81
<b>TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS</b>	105,481.11
Expenditures	\$ 57,834.55
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 47,646.56</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 75,569.46</b>



## **HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM**

In April 2013, KDVA celebrated the ninth anniversary of its Homeless Veterans Transition Facility at the Leestown Campus of the Lexington VA Medical Center, created in partnership with Volunteers of America.



As of June 30, 2014, the Leestown program had graduated 173 (11 in FY14) veterans who were once homeless and with drug problems, helping them become drug and alcohol free, and obtain stable housing and steady employment. FY 2014 offered continued success as 89 veterans received services at the 40 bed capacity. In October 2013, St. James Place apartments in Lexington celebrated the seventh year of operation with all 38 efficiency apartment units (that can be occupied by men and women veterans) homeless veterans fully occupied. These units receive support from the USDVA Homeless Veterans Grant & Per Diem program. Each unit is complete with kitchen and private bath giving the veterans more independence. Lexington also served 30 male veterans at the Hope Center facility which is part of a larger program for the homeless. In addition, the Hope Center added five beds for female veterans on their women's campus.

Interlink Counseling Services of Louisville also serves the needs of homeless veterans with a 90-bed capacity. Interlink also operates the Landing Zone, allowing up to ten homeless veterans to be taken off the street without waiting if an emergency (extreme weather, for example) warrants this.

St. Vincent DePaul in Louisville provides twenty beds as part of a grant and per diem program. Wayside Christian Mission provides transitional housing for up to 10 men, four women, and two families. These family units, unique in the Commonwealth, allow the veteran to bring a spouse and children into the unit. Finally, the Salvation Army provided housing for 27 male veterans in the newly renovated old Male High School building on Brooks Street, which is also the location for Louisville Stand Down for Homeless Veterans.

In addition to room and board, all of these facilities offer the following:

- Drug and alcohol abuse counseling
- Education referrals
- Employment and job training referrals
- Assistance with permanent housing.

The Pennyroyal Center in Hopkinsville began operation in 2012 of a 50-bed facility for homeless veterans (male), the first of its kind in western Kentucky. The Trust Fund provided a substantial grant to guarantee the success of the Center, made to supplement the primary funding coming from the USDVA grant and per diem program.

Finally Mountain Comprehensive Care opened a 27 bed transitional housing program for homeless veterans in Pikeville that will serve male veterans in the eastern region of the state.

Information and referral programs for homeless veterans are called "stand downs." During this fiscal year four stand downs were held. These were held state-wide in the cities of Bowling Green, Covington, Lexington, and Louisville. With Kentucky Veterans Program Trust Fund grants to the Homeless Veterans Program, and the coordination of efforts by KDVA, USDVA hospitals, the Kentucky Housing Corporation, and other social and health service providers, these stand downs will help alleviate the already 800-1200 homeless veterans sleeping on the streets of our Commonwealth every night.



## HOMELESS VETERANS TRUST FUND

The Homeless Veterans Trust Fund (HVTF) seeks to prevent homelessness among veterans and help homeless veterans return to permanent housing quickly. It provides small, one-time cash grants for rent deposits, utility payments and other housing-related expenses.

The HVTF represents a beacon of hope to veterans who otherwise would slip into or remain in a state of homelessness.

## FY 14 Milestones

Total Assistance Granted: **92,298.34**

Veterans Assisted: **396**

Family Members Assisted: **394**

Average Amt of Assistance: **\$234**

208 Veterans received rental assistance

168 Veterans received utility assistance



*Homeless Veterans Transition Program  
2007 graduate Bobby Downs.*

### Homeless Veterans Trust Fund Fiscal Year 2014

#### Fund Balance, Beginning of FY14

Carryforward	\$	53,346.05
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#### Revenue

Donations	\$	2,130.00
Veterans Program Trust Fund	\$	110,000.00
Interest	\$	21.67

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>112,151.67</b>
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#### Expenditures

Total Assistance Granted	\$	94,948.89
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<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>70,548.83</b>
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## Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Program Trust Fund Board Members (as of June 30, 2014)

POSITION	NAME	Organization	Term Expires
Chairman	Kenneth R. Lucas	Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs	<b>201 KAR 37:010 Section 3 (1)(a)</b>
Vice Chair	Margaret Plattner	Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs	<b>201 KAR 37:010 Section 3 (1)(a)</b>
Member	Mr. Carlos Pugh	Joint Executive Committee of Veterans Organizations	<b>EO 2011 – 676 07/15/2011—7/15/2014</b>
Member	Ms. Micki King	Governor's Advisory Board	<b>EO 2011 – 676 07/15/2011—7/15/2014</b>
Member	Mr. Ted Austin	American Legion	<b>EO 2010 - 618 8/16/2010 – 07/15/2013</b>
Member	Mr. Don Dixon	Veterans of Foreign Wars	<b>EO 2011 – 676 07/15/2011—7/15/2014</b>
Member	Ms. Lori Grizzle	AMVETS	<b>EO 2010 – 618 7/16/2010 – 07/15/2013</b>
Member	Mr. Bobby Hazen	Disabled American Veterans	<b>EO 2010 – 618 7/16/2010 – 07/15/2013</b>
Member	Ms. Julie S. Norman	At-Large	<b>EO 2011 – 676 07/15/2011—7/15/2014</b>
Member	Mr. Anthony Dotson	At-Large	<b>EO 2011 – 676 08/25/2011—7/15/2014</b>
Member	BG Ben Adams	At-Large	<b>EO 2010 – 618 7/16/2010 – 07/15/2013</b>

## **Veterans Program Trust Fund Board of Directors August 2, 2013 Meeting Minutes Excerpts**

The following requests for funds were presented:

1. Kentucky National Guard / U of L Behavioral Health Partnership Program - **\$75,000**

Financial assistance to assist combat veterans through this initiative.

Majority of the Board voted to approve the request for \$75,000

## **Veterans Program Trust Fund Board of Directors September 13, 2013 Meeting Minutes Excerpts**

The following requests for funds were presented:

### **KY Transportation Cabinet - \$60,000**

Funding to establish a rural veteran transportation pilot project, tentatively named The Vet Connection. Funds will be used to provide free transportation to veterans statewide, for medical services, including behavioral health.

Board voted unanimously to approve this request.

### **American Legion Post 23 - \$20,000**

Funds to purchase a van to replace a van that was used to transport veterans to and from medical appointments at the VAMC Nashville & VAMC Murfreesboro.

Board voted unanimously to approve this request.

### **Disabled American Veterans - \$50,000**

Funds to purchase three (3) 12-passenger vans to be used by both VAMCs. Two (2) vans would go to the VAMC Louisville and one (1) to the VAMC Lexington.

Board voted unanimously to approve this request.

### **Eastern Kentucky University / Veterans Education & Training Support Club - \$30,000**

Funding to provide essentially \$22 per student veteran on campus. The funds would be used to provide assistance to EKV VETS Club Leadership to travel to the National/Regional SVA Leadership Training, and plan, organize and conduct campus base support activities.

Board suggested that the organization request from the University that it take responsibility of this club.

## **Veterans Program Trust Fund Board of Directors March 21, 2014 Meeting Minutes Excerpts**

The following requests for funds were presented:

**Jeff Acob/Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs - \$35,000**

Financial support for the Burial Honors Program

Board voted (via email or write-in vote) to approve this request.

**Dr. Patrick McKiernan/Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs - \$35,000**

Funding for the Homeless Veterans Program Trust Fund

Board voted (via email or write in-vote) to approve this request.

**Office of Kentucky Transportation Delivery - \$62,000**

Funding to continue with the VetConnect Transportation program.

Board voted (via email or write in-vote) to approve this request.

**Matt LaPierre/Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs - \$10,000**

Funding to purchase miscellaneous items to be used by each Field Benefits Representative for out-reach efforts.

Board voted to approve this request.

**Bluegrass Honor Flight - \$10,000**

Funding support with expenses for flight to take veterans to Washington, DC.

Board voted to approve this request.

**American Legion 68/Patriotic PAWS for a Kentucky Cause - \$51,110**

Financial support for service animal training at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex.

Board voted to table this request until next meeting for the presenters to get answers to questions that Board members asked.

**Military Officers Association of America - \$5,500**

Funding for Community Blueprint Program.

Board voted to approve this request.

**USACares - \$25,000**

Funding support to provide effective solutions of military/veterans that are in need of assistance with basic needs, such as housing, jobs, emergency funds, etc.

Board voted to approve this request.

(Cont'd on next page)

## **Veterans Program Trust Fund Board of Directors March 21, 2014 Meeting Minutes Excerpts (Cont'd)**

The following requests for funds were presented:

**National Association for Black Veterans, Inc. - \$10,000**

Funding to assist with restoring veterans headstones in a pilot program at Newburg Cemetery in Louisville, Kentucky.

Board voted to approve this request.

**Eastern Kentucky University - \$56,588**

Financial assistance to help veterans enrolled at ECU transition, persist, and graduate.

The Board voted to approve granting \$40,000 that will be contingent upon the receipt of a letter from ECU stating that the location of the student center is approved.

**Ron Spriggs Exhibit of Tuskegee Airmen - \$13,900**

Funding to purchase a WW II Army Jeep for presentation at the Aviation Museum.

The Board voted to deny this request.

## **Veterans Program Trust Fund Board of Directors June 24, 2014 Meeting Minutes Excerpts**

The following requests for funds were presented:

**Heath Dolen, Division for Behavioral Health**

Funding to support Operation Headed Home & Operation Immersion - **\$28,000**.

Board voted to approve this request.

**Dr. Patrick McKiernan, Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs - \$75,000**

Funding support for the Veterans Homeless Trust Fund.

Board voted to approve this request.

**Shederick Jones & Irvin Lyons, National Association for Black Veterans - \$10,000**

Financial support to continue Phase II of the Veterans' Headstones Restoration Project (Eagles at Rest).

Board voted to approve the request with the stipulation that \$8000 goes for the restoration and \$2,000 for administrative cost. They were also informed that this would be the last time the Board would support this program/project.

**Melissa Hall, Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs - \$5,500**

Funding for costs incurred to host the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War.

Board voted to approve up to \$5,500 for this request.





Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs  
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1111B Louisville Road  
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Phone : (502) 564-9203  
FAX : (502) 564-9240  
[www.veterans.ky.gov](http://www.veterans.ky.gov)